Ascension Parish Library
Read • Learn • Create

Vol. 26 Issue 6
June
2026

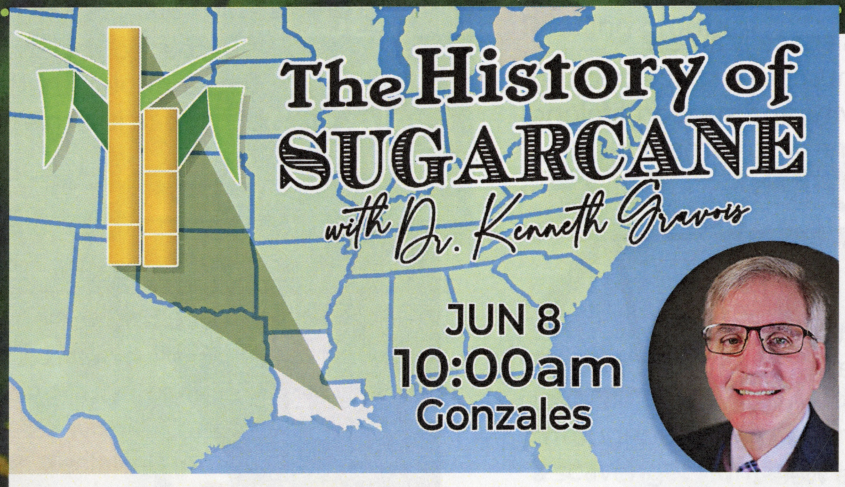
@theLibrary

JUN 18
10:00am Galvez
2:00pm Donaldsonville

JUL 9
10:00am Gonzales
2:00pm Dutchtown

Get ready for a wild, up-close animal adventure with Safari Station! From slithering snakes and colorful parrots to a giant tortoise, scorpions, tarantulas, and lively lizards, this hands-on experience brings amazing creatures right to you. Laugh, learn, and maybe even feel a few butterflies as you meet these incredible animals, ask questions, and get the chance to gently touch some of the animal ambassadors. Make plans to be at Ascension Parish Library on Thursday, June 18 at 10:00am in Galvez or 2:00pm in Donaldsonville. You can also join us on Thursday, July 9 at 10:00am at the library in Gonzales or 2:00pm in Dutchtown.

Safari Station, a family-run, mobile wildlife experience based in Lafayette, Louisiana, is dedicated to sharing the wonder of exotic animals while inspiring curiosity and care for the natural world.



Explore the history of sugarcane and its impact on Louisiana's culture, economy, and landscape. Join us at the library in Gonzales on Monday, June 8 at 10:00am as Dr. Kenneth Gravois, LSU Agricultural Center's sugarcane specialist, highlights how sugarcane grew to become one of our state's most important and resilient row crops and why it still matters today.

Dr. Gravois grew up on his family's sugarcane farm in Vacherie. The farm has grown to encompass acreage in three south Louisiana parishes. He is also the American Sugar Cane League chair in sugarcane production. This presentation was organized by the Ascension Parish Library in partnership with the LSU AgCenter to educate adults interested in gardening, landscaping, and modern agriculture.

And We're Open!

We had an amazing turnout for the grand opening of the St. Amant Library & Community Center. More than 700 people walked through our doors to celebrate, explore, and experience all this incredible new space has to offer. Visitors checked out everything from the makerspace, featuring a 3D printer, laser cutter, CNC mill, sewing machines, and a Brother ScanNCut, to the recording studio and teaching kitchen, where Chef Meaux demonstrated how to make fresh homemade pasta.

The energy carried on throughout the day. The checkout area saw the longest lines we've ever had—and they stayed busy for several hours! By the end of the celebration, 375 items had been checked out, 49 new library cards were issued, and several library users switched their former library card to the special-edition St. Amant-only card designed by local artist Bailey Simon-Sherman.

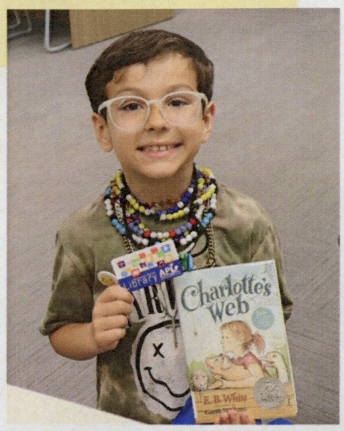
More than just a building, this space is a new gathering place for our community—a space to bring people together, spark creativity, and support lifelong learning. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate with us!

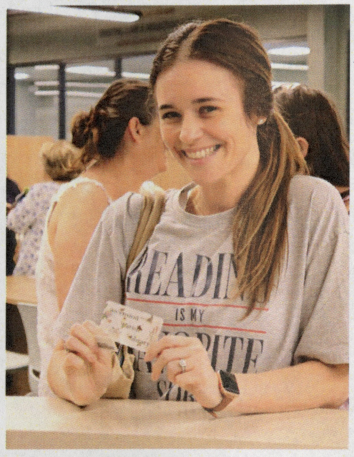
> "I don't live too far from here, and I've been watching the progress since ya'll started. I just can't believe we have all this in St. Amant. I'll be here at least once a week."

If you haven't already, sign up to get our monthly newsletter delivered right to your mailbox!

> "Angelle in heaven would be loving this moment."

> "This is amazing! I'm gonna cry. Just the potential... the potential for the children and the community. Thank ya'll for doing this."





> "This exceeded my expectations. You hear about what's coming, but to see it— this is great."

Pictured: Visitors at the grand opening celebration in St. Amant; Chef Meaux preparing homemade pasta.

Get whisked away by the music and movement of the Baton Rouge Youth Ballet on Tuesday, June 2 at 9:30am in Galvez, 11:30am in Gonzales, or 1:30pm in St. Amant. Experience the beauty of dance through excerpts from classical favorites and fresh, modern works. Meet beloved storybook characters like Puss in Boots and Little Red Riding Hood from *Sleeping Beauty* and the graceful swans from *Swan Lake*, plus enjoy the ballroom scene from *Cinderella* and the all-new *Beach Club*.

Youth Ballet is one of the outreach programs offered by Baton Rouge Ballet Theatre, comprised of a select group of dancers ages 10-14.

As we prepare to celebrate 250 years since our nation's founding, step back in time with us for a special screening of *1776* (1972, 2h 22m, PG) at the library in Gonzales on Wednesday, July 1 at 4:00pm. This musical brings to life the debates within Continental Congress as they worked toward declaring independence. Drawing from real letters, memoirs, and historical records, it follows figures like John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson as they meet, argue, and ultimately work together to sign the Declaration of Independence. Refreshments will be provided.

Movies rated PG are suitable for general viewing, although parental guidance is suggested; some material may not be suitable for children.

Clap along and become part of the storytelling as Mama SaBa brings tales to life through lively song and interactive moments. Children of all ages are invited to hear engaging tales rooted in African and Southern traditions—featuring favorites like Anansi the spider, Brer Rabbit, and more. Each performance is a little different and might even include an original story created just for the audience. Catch a performance on Tuesday, June 9 at 10:00am at the Study Commons at the Wag Center in Donaldsonville or at 2:00pm at the library in Dutchtown, or join us on Friday, June 26 at 10:00am at the library in Gonzales or at 2:00pm in Galvez.

Phyllis D. Jason, known as Mama SaBa, is a lifelong Louisiana resident and has performed nationally and internationally for more than 30 years, delighting children with her warm, engaging style. She has served as a storyteller and trainer with the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Prime Time Family Reading program.

scavenger hunt

Fabulous Fruits

MON, JUN 1 – TUE, JUN 30, All locations except Study Commons

Throughout the month of June, children are invited to seek and find 10 hidden pictures of fabulous fruit throughout the children's area of the library. Pick up a scavenger hunt sheet from the checkout desk, check off all the pictures, then turn it in to get a small prize for completing the challenge. This interactive activity encourages movement and library exploration—all while learning to identify healthy eats.

In the KITCHEN with Chef Meaux

Food Safety, Part 1

There are several challenges in both restaurants and home kitchens when it comes to food safety. So often we do things that our parents or grandparents did, but that doesn't make it safe. For example, thawing a 20-pound turkey overnight on the counter is certainly a no. Let's take a look at foodborne illness, its causes, and forms of contamination, including proper cooking temperatures, how to store food once it is cooked, and the important topic of cleaning, sanitizing, and handwashing.

Foodborne illness is transmitted through contaminated food. Contaminants are grouped into three categories: chemical, physical, and biological. Chemical contaminants include things such as spraying cleaner directly next to food ready to be cooked or eaten. A physical contaminate could be metal shavings from a can opener, fingernails, glass, or dirt, just to name a few. Biological contaminants are responsible for most foodborne illnesses. These include viruses, parasites, fungi, and bacteria. Cross-contamination can happen if contaminated food is mixed with ingredients that doesn't require additional cooking, if ready-to-eat food touches a contaminated surface, or if liquids from raw foods drip onto cooked or ready-to-eat foods. That is why it's important to store uncooked meat on the bottom shelf of your refrigerator, so its juices can't drop onto other foods.

Time and temperature are another way that food can become unsafe. Remember that 20-pound turkey left out on the counter? Once it begins to thaw under unsafe temperatures—known as the temperature danger zone—pathogens start to survive and grow. No amount of cooking can get rid of them once they start to develop. Temperature abuse happens when food remains between 41°F and 135°F for any length of time. Bacteria grow more rapidly between 70°F and 125°F.

Whether it's not washing your hands properly, sneezing or coughing on food while it's being prepared, or the simple act of touching or scratching a wound before touching food, poor personal hygiene is another harmful factor that contributes to contamination.

Join me *In the Kitchen* next time as I cover the 5 steps of proper handwashing, as well as proper cooking temperatures and food storage.

Get ready to decorate during a hands-on cookie class on Saturday, June 20 at 9:00am in the kitchen in St. Amant. Decorate a dozen dapper treats—six bowties and six neckties—perfect for the father figure in your life... But we won't judge if you keep them all for yourself! Each cookie comes pre-covered in vanilla fondant, ready for your personal touch. Then, package your delicious creations in a themed treat bag to take home in style. The hands-on session will last about 2 hours. Space is limited, and online registration is required. Scan the QR code above to reserve your spot.

A demonstration-only session will be held on Wednesday, June 24 at 2:00pm. Demo participants will sample cookies prepared by Chef Meaux and receive a recipe card to take home.

Sign up for both the hands-on and demonstration-only sessions begins on June 8.

. . . COMING NEXT MONTH . . .

Homemade Salad Dressings & Party Finger Foods

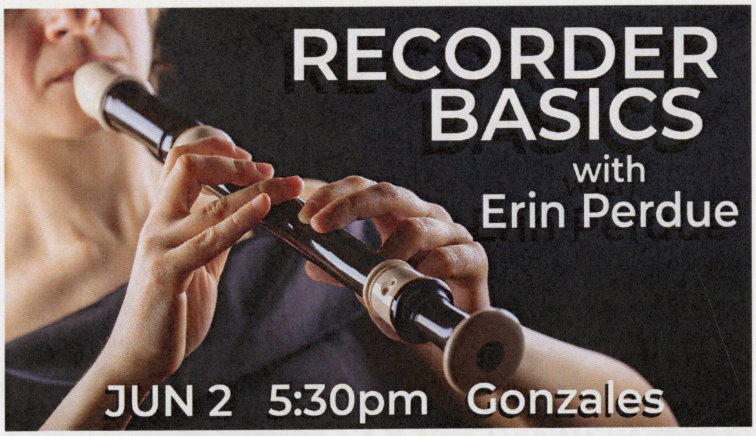
Hands-on class:
JUL 10, 9:00am
Demonstration-only:
JUL 10, 2:00pm

Sign up for both sessions begins June 26.

The Perfect Pie

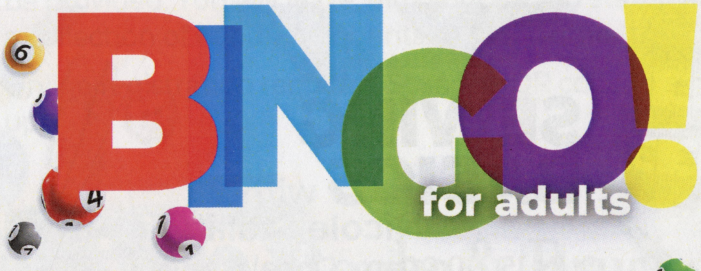
Hands-on class:
JUL 18, 9:00am
Demonstration-only:
JUL 23, 2:00pm

Sign up for both sessions begins July 6.



Have you always wanted to learn a musical instrument? Now is your chance! Local music teacher Erin Perdue will lead a hands-on introduction to the recorder on Tuesday, June 2 at 5:30pm at the library in Gonzales. Learn the basics, practice fun techniques, and by the end of class, you will be playing a full song. Don't worry about bringing an instrument—we have you covered.

Online registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up and start your musical adventure!



JUN 12
2:00pm
Dutchtown

JUN 18
2:00pm
St Amant

JUN 22
2:00pm
Donaldsonville

Is winning in your cards? You might yell BINGO B-4 you know it! This game of luck has been bringing people together for centuries. With roots tracing back to Italy in the 1500s, the game we know as bingo arrived in America in the 1920s, popping up at carnivals and quickly becoming a nationwide sensation thanks to the mass production of modern bingo cards. Today, it's still as exciting as ever! Grab a card, and let's play on Friday, June 12 at 2:00pm in Dutchtown; Thursday, June 18 at 2:00pm in St. Amant; or Monday, June 22 at 2:00pm in Donaldsonville. Additional bingo sessions will be available next month on Thursday, July 9 at 3:00pm at the Study Commons in Donaldsonville; Monday, July 13 at 6:00pm in Gonzales; and Saturday, July 25 at 10:00am in Galvez.

summer film series
Universal Monsters

Join Donald Beale, director of Online Distance Learning with LSU Online & Continuing Education, at the library in Gonzales each Tuesday night in June for a summer film series featuring Universal's classic monsters. A discussion of themes and styles will follow each screening. Doors open at 5:45pm. Refreshments will be served. This film series is designed for adults and is not intended for family entertainment.

Dracula—1931, 1h 15m, TV-14. Directed by Tod Browning and starring Bela Lugosi. An unfortunate solicitor, Renfield, travels to meet Count Dracula, a vampire who condemns Renfield to the same fate. The two travel back to London, where Count Dracula preys upon victims in the city.

June 4 6:00pm Gonzales

The Invisible Man—1933, 1h 11m, TV-PG. Directed by James Whale and starring Gloria Stuart and Claude Rains. Following an experiment that left him completely invisible, Dr. Jack Griffin demands to be left alone. As more villagers discover he is invisible, chaos and crime ensue.

June 11 6:00pm Gonzales

Frankenstein—1931, 1h 10m, rated TV-PG. Directed by James Whale and starring Boris Karloff. A mad scientist obsessed with creating life from the deceased constructs a monster that escapes from the lab and encounters residents of the surrounding town, causing destruction and despair.

June 18 6:00pm Gonzales

The Bride of Frankenstein—1935, 1h 15m, TV-PG. Directed by James Whale and starring Boris Karloff and Elsa Lanchester. Dr. Frankenstein creates a mate for his creature to help fabricate a new race, but all doesn't go as planned. Elsa Lanchester plays dual roles as novelist Mary Shelley and the frightful bride.

June 25 6:00pm Gonzales

Learn the fundamentals of hand-building as you create a one-of-a-kind clay trinket bowl perfect for holding jewelry, keys, or small treasures. Bekah Duplechin, owner of Art Academy in Prairieville, will guide you through working with slabs and coils, using slip to securely join pieces, smooth edges, and add subtle texture or personal details. Once your bowl is formed, paint your piece to add color, pattern, and personality. This hands-on workshop on Tuesday, June 9 in Galvez and Wednesday, July 15 in Gonzales emphasizes process over perfection. Both classes begin at 6:00pm. All materials will be provided, and your finished piece can be taken home the same day.

Online registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up. Bekah Duplechin is a professor at Louisiana State University with a background in fine arts.

packet pickup

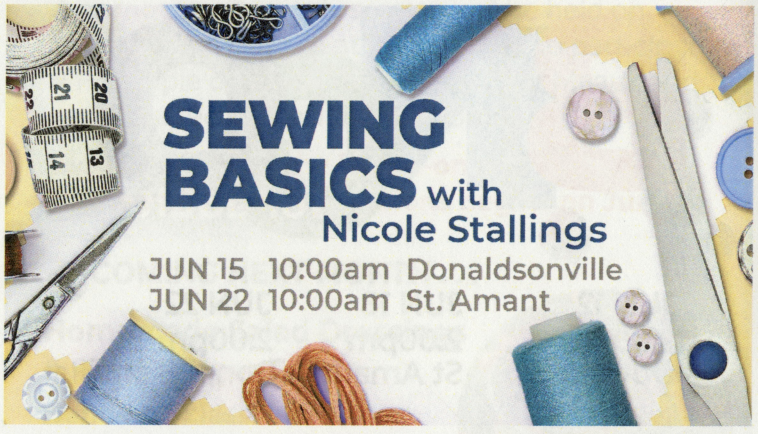
Knotted Pantry Bag

MON, JUN 1, All locations except Study Commons

Free up counter space and add style to your kitchen with a knotted pantry bag. In this online Creativebug class, learn how to make two bag sizes: a cotton rope bag for onions, avocados, or large citrus, and a smaller twine bag for garlic, shallots, or limes. Master simple macrame knots, including the versatile half knot, which forms patterns like the square knot, spiral, and Solomon bar, and finish with a whipping knot for a tidy look. The library will provide enough twine for a small bag and masking tape to help you get started. Pick up a packet from any library location beginning Monday, June 1, while supplies last.

Bring a little green into your life! Make colorful "seed bombs" from soil, clay, and seeds, and give a terracotta flowerpot your own personal flair with acrylic paints on Thursday, June 11 at 6:00pm in Donaldsonville. This hands-on workshop is perfect for beginners and pro gardeners alike. You will leave with a handmade seed bomb and a beautifully painted pot—ready to grow your own mini garden or share as a gift. All supplies will be provided.

Online registration required. Space is limited. Scan the QR code to sign up.

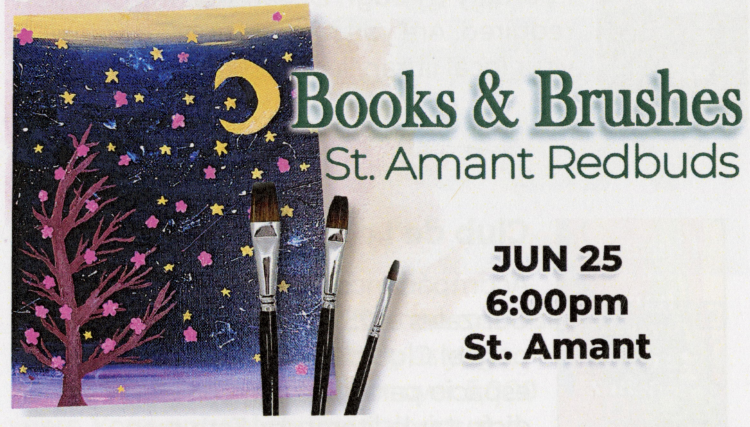


Learn sewing basics as you work to create a drawstring bag. Dutchtown High School teacher Nicole Stallings will demonstrate basic sewing techniques in single-session classes on Monday, June 15 at the library in Donaldsonville and on Monday, June 22 at the library in St. Amant. Each class begins at 10:00am. Brush up on your sewing skills or start a new hobby. Learn how to operate a sewing machine, including how to thread it, wind a bobbin, sew basic stitches, and make a 5/8" seam. The library will provide sewing machines and all needed supplies.

Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up.

Learn the fundamentals of creating original prints using rubber carving blocks, basic carving tools, and hand stamping techniques on Tuesday, June 16 in Dutchtown; Tuesday, June 23 in Donaldsonville; and Tuesday, July 21 in St. Amant. Bekah Duplechin, owner of Art Academy in Prairieville, will guide each class through designing a simple image, carving rubber blocks, and ink application and layering. This workshop focuses on intentional mark making, pattern, and repetition while encouraging exploration and creativity. All classes begin at 6:00pm and materials will be provided. You will leave with your carved stamp and a collection of handmade prints to take home.

Online registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up.



Capture the beauty of blooming redbud trees—like those gracing the grounds of Ascension Parish Library's St. Amant location. Redbuds can also be found throughout our parish, and on Thursday, June 25 at 6:00pm in St. Amant, you can paint your own redbud masterpiece. The library will provide all of the supplies and step-by-step guidance to bring your canvas to life—just bring your imagination!

Online registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up.

Step into a world of miniature magic on Friday, June 26 at the library in Dutchtown! Let your imagination soar as you paint a flowerpot and transform it into a fairy's dream home, complete with colorful mushrooms, lush grass, and vibrant flowers. This enchanting tiny home proves that when it comes to fairies, the smaller the space, the bigger the magic! The fairy fun begins at 2:00pm.

Online registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up to attend.

Add a modern touch to your space with a geometric plant hanger inspired by Scandinavian Himmeli designs. These stylish hangers are perfect for showcasing small indoor plants and can easily be hung in a sunny window. Don't have much of a green thumb? These planters are just as great for air plants or even faux succulents and greenery. All supplies will be provided, including an air plant of your choice.

Online registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up and save your spot for this hands-on workshop on Monday, June 29 at 10:00am in Galvez.

author talks

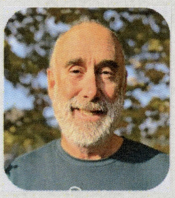
Enjoy virtual talks from authors from around the world. Livestream or watch recordings anytime, anywhere on your favorite device. Scan the QR code for access to all of our available Author Talks.

NONFICTION

Your Ticket to the Best State Fair Crafts with Smithsonian Curator Mary Savig WED, JUN 3, 1:00pm, Virtual

FICTION

Apocalyptic Mayhem, Lava-Spitting Llamas, and One Very Sassy Cat: Surviving the Universe's Most Twisted RPG with Matt Dinniman THU, JUN 11, 6:00pm, Virtual



VARIETY & LIFESTYLE

Nurturing Future Generations: Stories from the Heart of Grandfatherhood with Ted Page THU, JUN 18, 1:00pm, Virtual

COOKING

Simple, Sustainable, and Powerfully Delicious Meals with Sana Javeri Kadri and Asha Loupy TUE, JUN 23, 1:00pm, Virtual

. . . Coming next month . . .

COOKING

Make Protein Goals Easy (and Satisfying) with Dietitian Rachael DeVaux
THU, JUL 9, 1:00pm, Virtual

FICTION

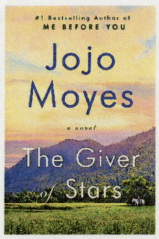
Small Towns & Big Secrets: In Conversation with Bestselling Author Karin Slaughter
TUE, JUL 14, 6:00pm, Virtual

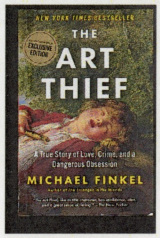
NONFICTION

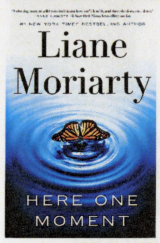
Migrant Heart: The Hidden Cost of the American Dream & Healing Through Storytelling with Reyna Grande THU, JUL 16, 1:00pm, Virtual

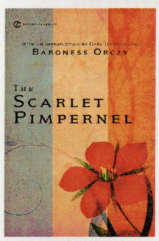
VARIETY & LIFESTYLE

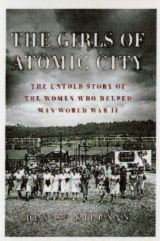
The Power of Connection: Creating Lasting Friendships in and Increasingly Lonely World with Dr. Marisa Franco TUE, JUL 28, 1:00pm, Virtual











ASCENSION PARISH LIBRARY

BOOK CLUB

JUN 4

1:30pm Donaldsonville
The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes

6:30pm Gonzales
The Art Thief by Michael Finkel

6:30pm Dutchtown
Here One Moment by Liane Moriarty

6:30pm Galvez
The Scarlet Pimpernel by Baroness Orczy

6:30pm St. Amant
The Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kiernan

Broaden your literary horizons. Hear new perspectives, share your thoughts, and connect with fellow readers. APL Book Clubs meet on the first Thursday of the month at their respective locations from February through December. Registration required. Are you ready to join? If so, call your local library location.

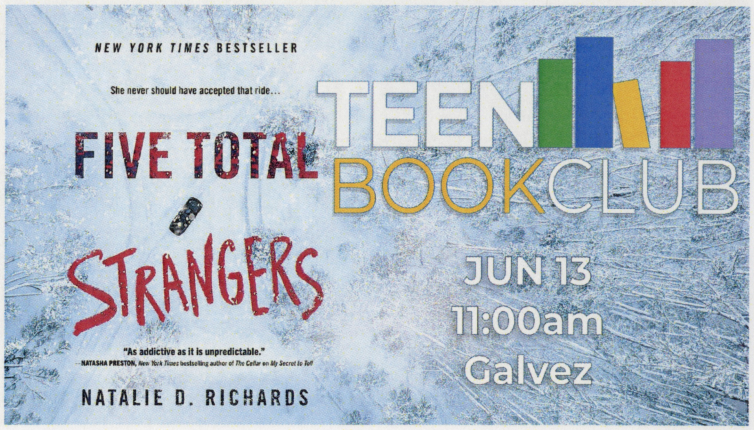
Club de Lectura en Español

Acompáñanos en la biblioteca de Gonzales el 25 de junio a las 6:30pm para el Club de Lectura en Español, un espacio para explorar, compartir y disfrutar la literatura. Este mes estaremos conversando sobre *Llorando en el bano* de Erika L. Sánchez. Puedes leer el libro en inglés o en español; sin embargo, las conversaciones serán en español. Las reuniones se llevan a cabo el último jueves de cada mes y están diseñadas para conectar a lectores que disfrutan de la literatura, la cultura y las conversaciones enriquecedoras. Para registrarte o para más información, llama a Paloma al 225-647-3955.

Has a cancer diagnosis affected you? Improve your well-being through mindful chair yoga. Ascension Parish Library, in partnership with Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, offers one-hour sessions for cancer survivors and caregivers, led by certified yoga instructor Jada Kerek, on Thursdays at 11:30am in Gonzales.

Registration required. Bringing your own yoga mat is welcomed. Scan the QR code to sign up for this month's classes.

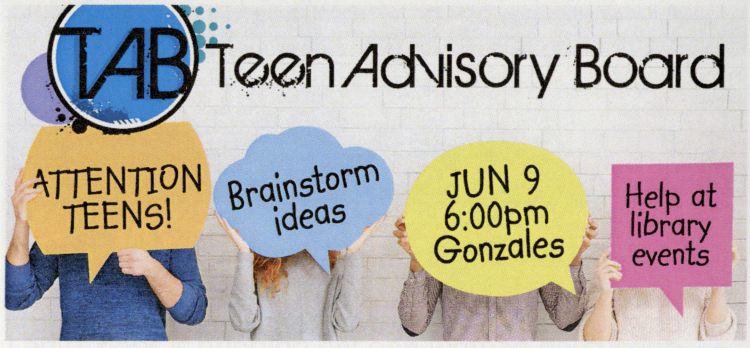
Fitness fads come and go, but no exercise program has endured as long as yoga, which has been practiced for over 5,000 years. Yoga not only burns calories and tones muscles; it's also a total mind-body workout, combining strengthening and stretching poses with deep breathing and relaxation. Certified yoga instructor Jada Kerek will demonstrate low-impact, seated yoga techniques that are gentle and easy enough for seniors. Class will meet at 10:00am at the library in Galvez on Saturday, June 6. Subsequent classes will be held on July 18, August 1, September 5, and October 3. Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up for each session.



Step into new worlds, meet unforgettable characters, and share your hot takes—whether you loved the book or had other opinions. Teen Book Club is held on the second Saturday of every month at 11:00am in Galvez. June's book pick is *Five Total Strangers* by Natalie D. Richards—a hitched ride home in a snowstorm turns sinister when one of the passengers is plotting for the ride to end in disaster.

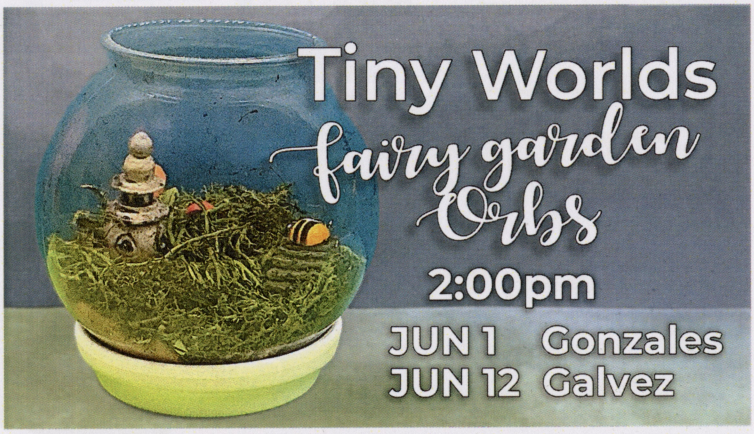
This event is for teens ages 12–18. Snacks will be provided. Books are reserved for pickup at our Galvez location. Although our book picks are specifically chosen for teens, parents are encouraged to review the suitability for their reader. Registration required. Call 225-622-3339 to sign up.

"Grief is big . . . These things turn your world inside out.
They change us. .
But only for a while."
—Natalie D. Richards, *Five Total Strangers*



Attend monthly meetings, meet other teens, and help at library events. All teens ages 13–18 with a valid APL library card are invited to join. TAB meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm in Gonzales. TAB members are asked to volunteer for two hours or help with one library event each month, as their schedule allows. To get involved, fill out a TAB application at any of our library locations.

for teens



Turn your ideas into a mini world. Craft a custom garden, add personal touches, and take your creation home. Step into a world of imagination and creativity at the library on Monday, June 1 in Gonzales and Friday, June 12 in Galvez. Both sessions begin at 2:00pm. Using a clear orb container, design and build your own mini fairy garden, complete with tiny plants and whimsical décor. It's a delicate process that uses your fingers and tweezers.

Registration required. Spots are limited. Call the library to reserve your spot.

Let your imagination grow in a tiny fantasy garden on Monday, June 8 in Dutchtown; Monday, June 15 in St. Amant; or Monday, June 29 in Donaldsonville. Each session begins at 2:00pm. Design and build your own miniature fantasy garden inside a clear teacup using a variety of fun and whimsical materials supplied by the library. Create a magical landscape that's peaceful, playful, and fantastical while exploring creativity, design, and storytelling through art.

Registration is required to attend, and spots are limited. Call the location that suits you best to sign up.

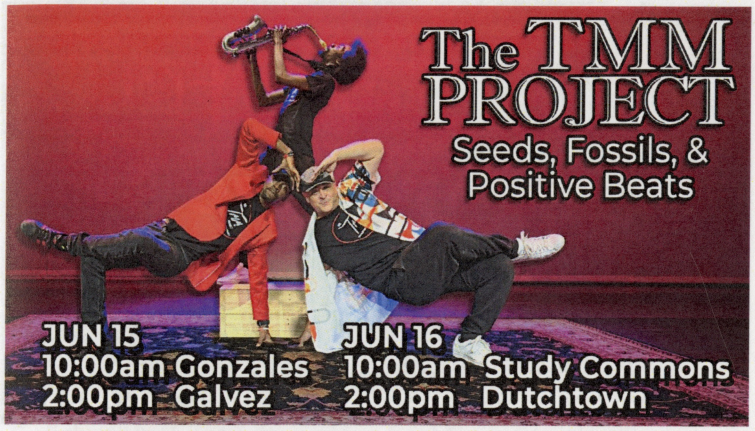
for tweens

Cool down at the library with a tween movie day! Join us at 2:00pm on Friday, June 12 in Gonzales, or Monday, June 22 in Dutchtown, for a library screening of *Moana* (2016, 1h 43m, PG)—popcorn and drinks will be provided. Set in ancient Polynesia, the adventurous daughter of a village chief is chosen by the ocean to restore a mystical relic to the goddess Te Fiti.

Movies rated PG are suitable for general viewing, although parental guidance is suggested; some material may not be suitable for children.

Brighten up your space with a burst of citrus creativity! In this hands-on activity, make a set of four coasters inspired by fresh summer fruits—lemon, orange, lime, and grapefruit. Using foam backing and clothesline rope, shape and design your coasters, then finish them off with vibrant spray-painted colors. The result is a bold, textured coaster set that's both functional and fun. All supplies will be provided by the library. Chill out with us on Monday, June 29 in Dutchtown; Monday, July 6 in St. Amant; Friday, July 10 in Gonzales; or Monday, July 20 in Donaldsonville. Each crafting session begins at 3:00pm.

Registration is required to attend. Call the location that works best for you to sign up.



Move and groove with live music, street dance, and dinosaur-themed activities, as the TMM Project helps us discover how the past and present work together to help ideas bloom. *Seeds, Fossils, & Positive Beats* is a fun, interactive cultural celebration that connects the soil beneath us to the stories around us. Catch the vibes on Monday, June 15 at 10:00am at the library in Gonzales or 2:00pm in Galvez, or on Tuesday, June 16 at 10:00am at the Study Commons at the Wag Center in Donaldsonville or 2:00pm at the library in Dutchtown.

Founded and led by Terrance Michael Morgan, The TMM (True Mission Matters) Project empowers youth to express themselves through the arts.

Learn how food scraps turn into nutrient-rich soil with Worm Lady Recycles on Thursday, June 25 at 10:00am in St. Amant or 2:00pm in Gonzales. Discover the magic of vermicomposting, using worms to transform organic waste into natural fertilizer that helps gardens thrive.

Taylor Lyons, founder of Worm Lady Recycles, LLC (WLR) in Lafayette, has a passion for reducing food waste and promoting regenerative practices. WLR provides composting solutions, community outreach, and partners with residents and businesses to keep waste out of landfills.

It will be an unforgettable field trip through time—without ever leaving your seat! Step into the prehistoric world with Dino Academy on Monday, June 29 at 10:00am at the library in Gonzales or 2:00pm in St. Amant, or Tuesday, June 30 at 10:00am at the Study Commons at the Wag Center in Donaldsonville or 2:00pm at the library in Dutchtown. Led by the quirky and curious Dr. Sarah Tops, this action-packed exploration uncovers fascinating dinosaur facts that will wow even the biggest dino fan. Featuring life-like, colorful dinosaur puppets that stomp, roar, and charm their way into every heart, this show blends science, storytelling, and imagination in the style of your favorite nature programs.

Bright Star Theatre is a touring company from North Carolina that brings fun, engaging theatre programs to schools, libraries, and community groups.

Lady Chops is bringing her one-woman percussion show to Ascension Parish this summer. Catch one of her energetic, interactive, educational, and fun-for-all-ages performances on Monday, July 6 at 10:00am in Dutchtown or 2:00pm in Galvez, or on Tuesday, July 7 at 10:00am at the Study Commons in Donaldsonville or 2:00pm at the library in St. Amant.

Even if you don't have a green thumb, you can still have a blooming good time bringing the outdoors inside with this hands-on flower garden building experience! Using fun flower garden building toys, preschoolers ages 3–5 can dig into creativity as they build their own pretend garden and design a tiny house or town around it with DUPLOs. Little gardeners will also craft a colorful straw heart flower arrangement and decorate a flowerpot to take home. This flower-filled adventure will be bursting with color, imagination, and playful fun. Explore the beauty of nature through art and hands-on play at 10:00am on Monday, June 1 in St. Amant and on Monday, June 8 in Donaldsonville.

packet pickups

Hairy Head

MON, JUN 1, All locations except Study Commons

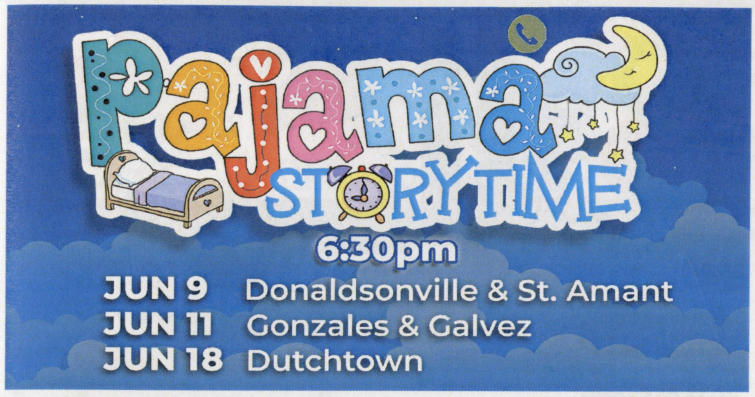
Here's a playful introduction to plant growth. Pick up a Hairy Head kit from any Ascension Parish Library location beginning Monday, June 1, and create a quirky stocking head with grass seeds. Each packet includes instructions and supplies. Water responsibly and watch your creation sprout soft green hair. You can even style it or give it a haircut! This kit is designed for kids ages 6–8. Available while supplies last.

Notice: Photos and videos taken at APL may be used in promotional materials by the library and its partners. By attending a library event, you consent to media recordings and waive all rights and royalties.

Certain fruits bring summer memories as their juicy redness makes our mouths water. Let's paint and celebrate two of summer's most fabulous fruits on Thursday, June 4 in Donaldsonville; Monday, June 15 in Dutchtown; Tuesday, June 23 in Galvez; and Tuesday, June 30 in St. Amant. Use your fingers and sponge shapes, perfect for small hands, to create delicious-looking strawberry and watermelon pictures that will last all season long. Don't forget to dress for mess, but all the paint is washable—just like your little one!

This event is designed for preschoolers ages 3–5. Each session begins at 10:00am.

Who says you can't put all your eggs in one basket? At our farm sensory play days, even the youngest learners are invited to explore life on the farm! Babies and toddlers can sort and match egg shapes in our pretend chicken coop, count and organize toy farm animals, and pick apples from our make-believe orchard. They can also touch and arrange pretend fruits and vegetables—grouping them by color or type. The farmyard will come alive as your child discovers new vocabulary and practices early math skills. Visit our farm on Friday, June 5 in Gonzales; Monday, June 8 in Galvez; Friday, June 12 in St. Amant; or Thursday, June 25 in Donaldsonville. Each session begins at 10:00am.



Splish, splash into storytime fun! Come to the library dressed in your snuggliest pajamas and get ready for a bubbly, good Pajama Storytime that's all about bathtime. Enjoy engaging stories, lively songs, and interactive activities designed for young listeners. Pajamas, blankets, and stuffed animal friends are welcome at this cozy evening of learning and laughter.

Pajama Storytime is held at 6:30pm every second Tuesday of the month in Donaldsonville and St. Amant, second Thursday in Gonzales and Galvez, and third Thursday in Dutchtown. Each session lasts approximately 30 minutes. This storytime is designed for kids ages 8 and younger and their families.

Get ready to sparkle and celebrate the Fourth of July with a morning full of patriotic creativity on Thursday, July 2 at 10:00am at the library in Galvez. This red, white, and blue crafting adventure designed for kids ages 6–8 features three festive activity stations to rotate through: painting and stickering a paper flag, making a chenille-stem fireworks ring, and building a straw rocket. Classic tunes from *Schoolhouse Rock America* will play in the background to add to the spirited atmosphere. After you've finished crafting, enjoy a sweet treat of red, white, and blue sugar cookies along with a juice box or water. The library will provide all of the necessary supplies.

Babytime

Tuesdays, JUN 2 – JUL 21; 10:00am; Gonzales
Thursdays, JUN 4 – JUL 23; 10:00am; Dutchtown

Babytime is designed for babies ages 0–18 months and their caregivers. It features interactive board books and a variety of songs, nursery rhymes, and fingerplays. Babytime helps develop important language and motor skills and allows babies and their caregivers to bond, learn activities and verses to share at home, and connect with other families. Babytime is being held on Tuesdays at 10:00am in Gonzales from June 2 to July 21 and Thursdays at 10:00am in Dutchtown from June 4 to July 23. Each session lasts 15 –20 minutes. Parents are welcome to socialize afterwards, giving babies time to play together.

Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays, JUN 3 – JUL 22; 10:00am; Gonzales, Donaldsonville, Dutchtown, Galvez, & St. Amant

Toddler Storytime is designed for active toddlers ages 15 months to 2 years and their families. It features interactive picture books, songs, rhymes, and fingerplays. This storytime encourages toddlers to wiggle, clap, and dance while learning new words, rhythms, and songs. The combination of stories, music, and hands-on activities helps develop language skills, motor coordination, and a love of books. Toddler Storytime is held on Wednesdays at 10:00am in Gonzales, Donaldsonville, Dutchtown, Galvez, and St. Amant from June 3 to July 22. Each session lasts approximately 25 minutes.

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays, JUN 3 – JUL 22; 11:00am; Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez

Preschool Storytime is designed for kids ages 3–5 and their families. This storytime is for children who have outgrown Toddler Storytime but have not started school yet. It features engaging picture books along with a mix of lively songs and playful rhymes and activities to keep things energetic and fun while promoting early literacy and school readiness. Setting aside time to read together instills a love of books in children and enriches your child's language development. Preschool Storytime is held on Wednesdays at 11:00am in Gonzales, Dutchtown, and Galvez from June 3 to July 22. Each session lasts approximately 25 minutes.

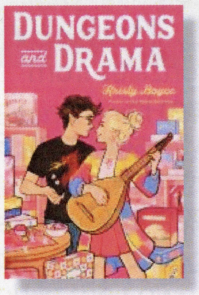
Shelf Analysis

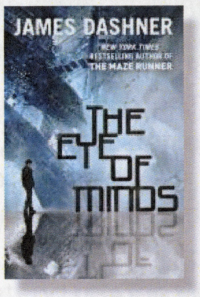
matching readers with books...and other stuff

Teen Books for Gamers

Whether it's board games, active outdoor games, role-playing games, videogames, virtual reality, or more, gamers and their games come in many varieties. Check out a book that gives gamer vibes.

Curated by Samantha Matherne

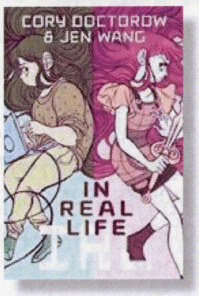




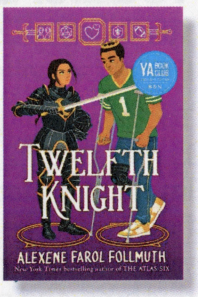
Dungeons and Drama
by Kristy Boyce

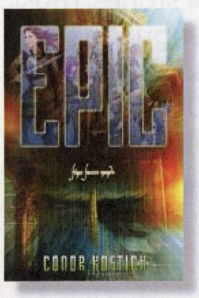
The Eye of Minds
by James Dashner

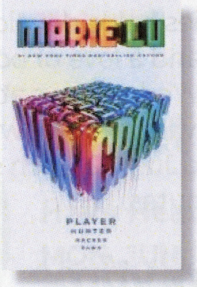
In Real Life
by Cory Doctorow & Jen Wang



Twelfth Night
by Alexene Farol Follmuth



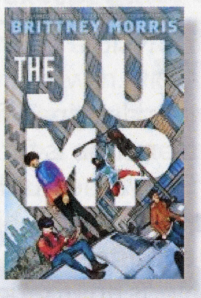




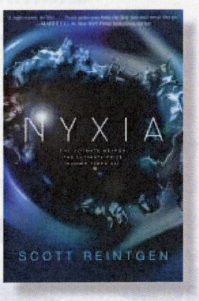
Epic
by Conor Kostick

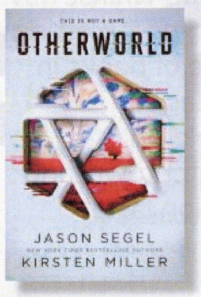
Warcross
by Marie Lu

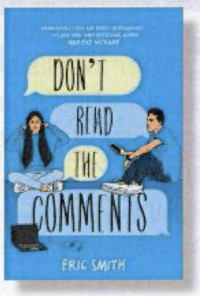
The Jump
by Brittney Morris



Nyxia
by Scott Reintgen



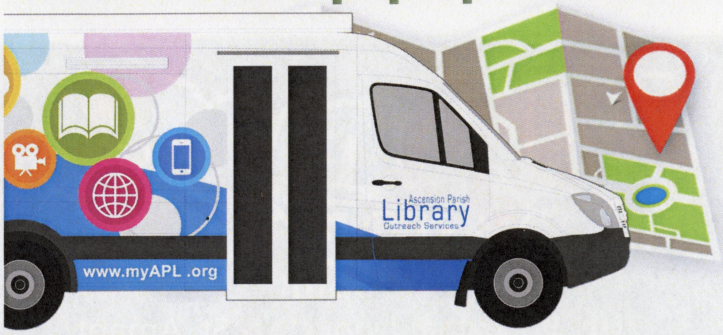




Otherworld
by Jason Segel & Kirsten Miller

Don't Read the Comments
by Eric Smith

bookmobile & pop-up



JUN 2	10:00am–11:00am	Francois Bend
JUN 2 & 16	3:30pm–4:30pm	St. Amant Park
JUN 3 & 17	3:30pm–4:30pm	Sorrento Community Center
JUN 4	10:00am–11:00am	Donaldsonville Senior Center
JUN 4 & 18	3:30pm–4:30pm	Oak Grove Community Center
JUN 5	9:00am–10:00am	Gill's Supermarket
JUN 5	3:30pm–4:30pm	Darrow Community Center
JUN 9 & 23	9:00am–10:00am	St. Amant Park
JUN 9 & 23	2:00pm–3:00pm	New River United Methodist
JUN 9 & 23	3:30pm–4:30pm	Keystone of Galvez Park
JUN 10 & 24	3:00pm–4:00pm	The Church—Donaldsonville
JUN 11 & 25	3:30pm–4:30pm	Lemanville Park
JUN 12 & 26	1:30pm–2:30pm	Donaldsonville Senior Apartments
JUN 13	11:00am–8:00pm	Juneteenth Music Festival
JUL 1	3:30pm–4:30pm	Sorrento Community Center
JUL 2	10:00am–11:00am	Donaldsonville Senior Center
JUL 2	3:30pm–4:30pm	Oak Grove Community Center
JUL 3	9:00am–10:00am	Gill's Supermarket
JUL 3	3:30pm–4:30pm	Darrow Community Center

Schedule subject to change.

Scan the QR code for the most up-to-date schedule and details for homebound delivery or how to invite the library to an upcoming event.

families adults teens tweens kids ▶ = sign up required

JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
5/31	**1** Tutti Frutti Tally Game & Fabulous Fruits Scavenger Hunt begins Hairy Head Packet Pickup All locations Knotted Pantry Bag Packet Pickup All locations Flower Power 10:00am St. Amant ▶ Tiny Worlds: Fairy Garden Orbs 2:00pm Gonzales	**2** Ballet Soiree with Baton Rouge Youth Ballet 9:30am Galvez 11:30am Gonzales 1:30pm St. Amant Babytime 10:00am Gonzales ▶ Recorder Basics with Erin Perdue 5:30pm Gonzales	**3** Toddler Storytime 10:00am All locations except Study Commons Preschool Storytime 11:00am Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez Author Talks with Mary Savig 1:00pm Virtual	**4** Summer Fruit Sponge Art 10:00am Donaldsonville Babytime 10:00am Dutchtown ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales APL Book Clubs 1:30pm Donaldsonville; 6:30pm Gonzales, Dutchtown, Galvez, & St. Amant Summer Film Series: *Dracula* 6:00pm Gonzales	**5** Down on the Farm Sensory Play 10:00am Gonzales	**6** ▶ First Saturdays with Gentle Chair Yoga 10:00am Galvez
7	**8** The History of Sugarcane with Dr. Kenneth Gravois 10:00am Gonzales Flower Power 10:00am Donaldsonville Down on the Farm Sensory Play 10:00am Galvez ▶ Mini Fantasy Gardens 2:00pm Dutchtown	**9** Babytime 10:00am Gonzales Mama SaBa: Southern & African Folktales 10:00am Study Commons 2:00pm Dutchtown Teen Advisory Board 6:00pm Gonzales ▶ Clay Trinket Bowls with Art Academy 6:00pm Galvez Pajama Storytime 6:30pm Donaldsonville & St. Amant	**10** Toddler Storytime 10:00am All locations except Study Commons Preschool Storytime 11:00am Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez	**11** Babytime 10:00am Dutchtown ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales Summer Film Series: *The Invisible Man* 6:00pm Gonzales ▶ Grow & Create: Seed Bombs & Painted Pots 6:00pm Donaldsonville Author Talks with Matt Dinniman 6:00pm Virtual Pajama Storytime 6:30pm Gonzales & Galvez	**12** Down on the Farm Sensory Play 10:00am St. Amant Tween Movie: *Moana* 2:00pm Gonzales Bingo Day for Adults 2:00pm Dutchtown ▶ Tiny Worlds: Fairy Garden Orbs 2:00pm Galvez	**13** ▶ Teen Book Club 11:00am Galvez
14	**15** The TMM Project: Seeds, Fossils, & Positive Beats 10:00am Gonzales 2:00pm Galvez ▶ Sewing Basics for Adults with Nicole Stallings 10:00am Donaldsonville Summer Fruit Sponge Art 10:00am Dutchtown ▶ Mini Fantasy Gardens 2:00pm St. Amant	**16** Babytime 10:00am Gonzales The TMM Project: Seeds, Fossils, & Positive Beats 10:00am Study Commons 2:00pm Dutchtown ▶ Printmaking with Art Academy 6:00pm Dutchtown	**17** Toddler Storytime 10:00am All locations except Study Commons Preschool Storytime 11:00am Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez	**18** Babytime 10:00am Dutchtown Safari Station 10:00am Galvez 2:00pm Donaldsonville ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales Author Talks with Ted Page 1:00pm Virtual Bingo Day for Adults 2:00pm St. Amant Summer Film Series: *Frankenstein* 6:00pm Gonzales Pajama Storytime 6:30pm Dutchtown	**19** LIBRARY CLOSED	**20** ▶ In the Kitchen: Father's Day Decorated Tie Cookies Hands-on Class 9:00am St. Amant
21	**22** ▶ Sewing Basics for Adults with Nicole Stallings 10:00am St. Amant Tween Movie: *Moana* 2:00pm Dutchtown Bingo Day for Adults 2:00pm Donaldsonville	**23** Babytime 10:00am Gonzales Summer Fruit Sponge Art 10:00am Galvez Author Talks with Sana Javeri Kadri & Asha Loupy 1:00pm Virtual ▶ Printmaking with Art Academy 6:00pm Donaldsonville	**24** Toddler Storytime 10:00am All locations except Study Commons Preschool Storytime 11:00am Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez ▶ In the Kitchen: Father's Day Decorated Tie Cookies Demonstration Session 2:00pm St. Amant Library Board Meeting 4:00pm Gonzales	**25** Down on the Farm Sensory Play 10:00am Donaldsonville Babytime 10:00am Dutchtown Learn About Worms! with Worm Lady Recycles 10:00am St. Amant 2:00pm Gonzales ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales Summer Film Series: *The Bride of Frankenstein* 6:00pm Gonzales ▶ Books & Brushes: St. Amant Redbuds 6:00pm St. Amant Spanish Book Club 6:30pm Gonzales	**26** Mama SaBa: Southern & African Folktales 10:00am Gonzales 2:00pm Galvez ▶ Tiny Homes: Fairy Edition 2:00pm Dutchtown	**27**
28	**29** Dino Academy: A Dinosaur Discovery Show with Bright Star Theatre 10:00am Gonzales 2:00pm St. Amant ▶ Air Plant Hangers 10:00am Galvez ▶ Mini Fantasy Gardens 2:00pm Donaldsonville ▶ Slice of Summer Coaster Set 3:00pm Dutchtown	**30** Babytime 10:00am Gonzales Summer Fruit Sponge Art 10:00am St. Amant Dino Academy: A Dinosaur Discovery Show with Bright Star Theatre 10:00am Study Commons 2:00pm Dutchtown	**7/1** Delicious Veggies Scavenger Hunt begins Fruit & Veg Torn Paper Art Packet Pickup All locations Toddler Storytime 10:00am All locations except Study Commons Preschool Storytime 11:00am Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez Family Movie: 1776 4:00pm Gonzales	**7/2** Babytime 10:00am Dutchtown Happy Birthday, America: A Celebration of America's 250th Birthday 10:00am Galvez APL Book Clubs 1:30pm Donaldsonville; 6:30pm Gonzales, Dutchtown, Galvez, & St. Amant	**7/3**	**7/4**

Ascension Parish Library
Read • Learn • Create

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locations & hours

myAPL.org

Gonzales
708 South Irma Blvd.
Gonzales, LA 70737
225-647-3955

MON–THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
FRI & SAT ..... 8:30am – 5:30pm
SUN ..... 2:00pm – 6:00pm

Donaldsonville
500 Mississippi St.
Donaldsonville, LA 70346
225-473-8052

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

Dutchtown
13278 Highway 73
Geismar, LA 70734
225-673-8699

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

Galvez
40300 Highway 42
Prairieville, LA 70769
225-622-3339

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

St. Amant
12341 Highway 431
St. Amant, LA 70774
225-647-6008

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

Study Commons at the Wag Center
1221 Maginnis St.
Donaldsonville, LA 70346
225-257-1307

MON–FRI ..... 8:30am – 5:30pm
SAT ..... 10:00am – 2:00pm
SUN ..... CLOSED